

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 04585 260139Z

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ACTION ARA-20

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SUBJECT: CHILEAN UNIVERSITY SCENE

REFERENCE: SANTIAGO 4439, SEPT 20, 1973

SUMMARY: FURTHER CHANGES IN UNIVERSITY STRUCTURE INDICATIVE OF NATIONAL "CLEANSING" OF INSTITUTIONS OF MARXIST INFLUENCES. WITH EXCEPTION OF VALPARAISO UNIVERSITIES, MAJOR CHANGES BY INITIATIVE OF UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION THEMSELVES - PERHAPS TO FORESTALL GOVERNMENT ACTION. END SUMMARY

1. MAJOR RESTRUCTURING UNIVERSITY CHILE (REFTEL) INDICATIVE OF CHANGES UNDERWAY OR IMMINENT AT OTHER CHILEAN INSTITUTIONS HIGHER LEARNING TO ACCOMMODATE ANTI-MARXIST POLICIES OF NEW MILITARY JUNTA BY REMOVING FACULTY AND STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY FOREIGNERS, SUSPECTED BEING LEFTIST ACTIVISTS AND IN CASE OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS OF NOT HAVING ACTED STRONGLY ENOUGH AGAINST THEM DURING ALLENDE REGIME.

2. MOST DRAMATIC INSTANCE THIS SO FAR WAS ANNOUNCEMENT OVER WEEKEND BY NEW VALPARAISO PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR NAMING NAVAL OFFICERS TO TAKE OVER CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (UCV) UNIVERSITY
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 04585 260139Z

OF CHILE BRANCH AND SANTA MARIA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN

CAPACITY "DELEGATES". OFFICERS WILL HAVE "COMPLETE AUTHORITY TO INTRODUCE ALL CHANGES THEY DEEM NECESSARY, BOTH IN TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE FIELDS, WITH OBJECTIVE UNIVERSITIES CARRY OUT THEIR SPECIFIC MISSIONS IN FORMATION OF PROFESSIONALS AND RESEARCH."

3. UCV RECTOR ALLARD PRESENTED HIS RESIGNATION SEPT 24 TO CHURCH AUTHORITIES. ADMINISTRATION WAS ORDERED TURNED OVER TO PROVINCIAL CLERICAL AUTHORITIES UNPARENTLY NULLIFYING UCV REFORM OF FIVE YEARS AGO.

4. ACTION IN CASE UNIVERSITY CHILE BRANCH WHICH IS THOROUGHLY MARXIST INFILTRATED NOT SURPRISE, BUT RECTORS CATHOLIC AND SANTA MARIA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITIES CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THEIR SUPERSESSION PROBABLY DUE BELIEF BY MILITARY THEY FAILED CONTROL THEIR INSTITUTIONS. MILITARY ANNOUNCEMENT SAID MORE THAN TEN TONS OF MARXIST PROPAGANDA AND "IMPRESSIVE AMOUNT" OF ARMS AND EXPLOSIVE HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY WHILE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY BEEN SCENE VIOLENCE END AUGUST WHEN RIGHTIST STUDENTS DISLODGED FROM BUILDINGS AFTER BEING ATTACKED BY EXTREME LEFT. MILITARY USING CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AS COMMAND POST. BPAO VALPARAISO BELIEVES BE MONTHS BEFORE UNIVERSITY CHILE CAN GO BACK INTO OPERATION WHILE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY ONLY REQUIRES ELECTIVE PRUNING TO MEET MILITARY'S DEMANDS, AND TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY COULD PROBABLY RESUME CLASSES QUICKLY.

5. HOWEVER NEW MINISTER OF EDUCATION JOSE NAVARRO TOBAR IN PRESS INTERVIEWS APPEARING IN CENSORED SANTIAGO MEDIA MONDAY NIGHT AND TUESDAY MORNING INDICATED UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY MAY BE COMING UNDER SOME FORM OF GENERAL JUNTA CONTROL. EXPECTED MEET TODAY WITH ALL RECTORS TO DISCUSS ITS EDUCATIONAL POLICIES AND OBTAIN THEIR VIEWS. NAVARRO SAID NEW RECTOR NAMED FOR STATE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (UTE) COL. EUGENIO REYES TASPETE, AN ARMY ENGINEER ON ACTIVE SERVICE. FORMER COMMUNIST RECTOR ENRIQUE KIRBERG REPORTED BY PRESS BE AMONG HIGH LEVEL UNIDAD POPULAR GROUP TAKEN TO REMOTE ISLAND IN EXTREME SOUTH CHILE. NAVARRO INDICATED HE HAD NO PROBLEMS "FOR MOMENT" WITH CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES, CHILE, UNIVERSITY OF CONCEPCION, AUSTRAL UNIVERSITY AND EVEN IN CASE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH IN ANTOFA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SANTIAGO 04585 260139Z

GASTA, GENERALLY CONSIDERED CONTROVERSIAL. DESCRIBED NEW EDUCATIONAL POLICY AS "CHILEAN, ESSENTIALLY SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL, WITH A LARGE NATIONAL CONTENT."

6. SELECTION AND ADMISSION PROCEDURE FOR 1974-75 FOR ALL UNIVERSITIES UNDERGOING RESTRUCTURING -- PARTICULARLY ELIMINATION OR CONSOLIDATION OF LESS "ACADEMIC" CAREERS.

7. TEACHERS AT BOTH UCHILE AND CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (SANTIAGO) WHO FAILED TO SHOW UP ON ANNOUNCED WORKDAYS CONSIDERED TO HAVE "ABANDONED POSTS" - A LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR REMOVAL. NOT SURPRISINGLY, MARXIST PROFESSORS PREDOMINATE IN THIS GROUP.

8. CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (SANTIAGO) OPENED CLASSES (SEPT 24); ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES RESUMED LAST WEEK. UCHILE EXPECTS TO REOPEN CLASSES SOON, DEPENDING ON CONDITIONS IN INDIVIDUAL BRANCHES, DEPARTMENTS AND CAREERS. HAD ORIGINALLY EXPECTED REOPEN SEPT 24.

9. UNIVERSITY OF CONCEPCION HAS ANNOUNCED MOST THOROUGHGOING CHANGES TO DATE. RECTOR VON PLESSING ASSURED BROAD PERSONAL CONTROL, DISSOLVING CONSEJO SUPERIOR (SUPERIOR COUNCIL) AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVE BODIES. UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT RESIDENCES CLOSED FOR REORGANIZATION; INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY AND SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM DISSOLVED, CONTRACTS TERMINATED AND STUDENTS DECLARED EXPELLED. UNIVERSITY RADIO, FILM AND PRESS FUNCTION DIRECTORLY UNDER RECTOR. WHEN CLASSES ANNOUNCED, ALL STUDENTS MUST APPEAR AT HOUR AND PLACE INDICATED OR LOSE STUDENT STATUS. SPECIAL REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS UNDERWAY. ALL UCONCEPCION PROFESSORS, EMPLOYEES CONSIDERED IN "ACTING" CAPACITY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

10. LITTLE DETAILED INFO AS YET ON OTHER UNIVERSITIES. UTE CLASSES REMAIN SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY AT ALL BRANCHES. NO WORD UAUSTRAL OR PROVINCIAL SITUATION IN GENERAL OTHER THAN THAT ALREADY REPORTED.

11. ONLY STUDENT FEDERATION ACTIVE IS FEUC OF SANTIAGO (STUDENT FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, SANTIAGO) WHICH HAS BEEN VIGOROUSLY WHITE-WASHING SLOGAN - SPLATTERED WALLS OF SANTIAGO. OTHER YOUTH GROUPS UNSURE OF APPROPRIATE ACTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 SANTIA 04585 260139Z

AT THIS STAGE OF NEW ORDER.

12. EFFECTS OF ABOVE ON OUR PROGRAMS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT MEETING OF FULBRIGHT COMMISSION EARLY OCTOBER, IN USIS SESSIONS ALSO IN EARLY OCTOBER AND WITHIN COUNTRY IVP COMMITTEE AT OPPORTUNE TIME.
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